

# CAADPE

## CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAM EXECUTIVES, INC.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### OFFICERS

##### President

**Albert M. Senella**

*Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.*  
Kern, Los Angeles, Orange,  
Ventura Counties

##### Vice President

**Trisha Stanionis**

*Family Service Agency*  
Yolo County

##### Secretary

**William Dombrowski, Ph.D.**

*Didi Hirsch CMHC*  
Los Angeles County

##### Treasurer

**Norman Sprunck**

*Western Pacific Med Corp*  
Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura Counties

#### BOARD MEMBERS

**Lynne Appel**

*Southern California Alcohol &  
Drug Programs, Inc.*  
Los Angeles, Orange Counties

**Jack Bernstein**

*CRI-HELP, Inc.*  
Los Angeles County

**Kimberly Bond**

*Mental Health Systems*  
San Diego, San Bernardino,  
Imperial, Riverside, Santa Barbara,  
San Luis Obispo, Kern,  
Stanislaus, Fresno and Orange Counties

**Vitka Eisen, MSW, Ed.D.**

*Valden House, Inc.*  
Kings, Los Angeles, Madera,  
Riverside, San Francisco,  
and Sutter Counties

**Kimberly Hendrix**

*Volunteers of America*  
Los Angeles County

**Shawn Jenkins**

*WestCare California*  
Fresno, El Dorado, Kern,  
and Sacramento Counties

**Stephen Maulhardt**

*Aegis Medical Systems*  
Butte, Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles  
Merced, Placer, San Bernardino,  
San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo,  
Santa Barbara, Stanislaus, Sutter,  
Ventura, Yuba Counties

**Luis Montes**

*Narcotics Prevention Association Inc.*  
Los Angeles County

**Henry van Oudheusden**

*Behavioral Health Services, Inc.*  
Los Angeles, Orange Counties

**Elvia Torres**

*SPIRITT Family Services*  
Los Angeles County

**Elizabeth Stanley-Salazar**

*Phoenix Houses of California, Inc.*  
Kings, Los Angeles, Madera, Orange,  
San Bernardino, San Diego,  
Ventura Counties

**Sushma Taylor, Ph.D.**

*Center Point, Inc.*  
Contra Costa, Marin, Riverside,  
Sacramento, San Diego, San Joaquin,  
Solano, Toulomne Counties

**Brenda Wiewel**

*Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol & Drug Abuse*  
Los Angeles County

*in memoriam*  
Dale Shimizu

August 16, 2011

Diana Dooley, Secretary  
Health and Human Services Agency  
1600 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 460  
Sacramento Ca 95814

Dear Secretary Dooley:

The Board of Directors of CAADPE, the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives, Inc., has unanimously voted to support Governor Brown's proposal to eliminate the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs and placement of its functions in the Department of Health Care Services. Accompanying this decision is CAADPE's recommendation that all prevention and substance use disorder treatment authority within the Department of Health Care Services be located in a yet to be created Division of Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Services at the Deputy Director level. CAADPE does not support a Behavioral Health Division or a merger with mental health.

The Board's support is a significant change from its past position, as historically CAADPE has opposed any state efforts to merge, consolidate or eliminate the state's Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs. This position has been based on the long held belief that the voice of the field needed a strong visible position in state government and that anything less than a recognizable and highly placed independent department would not fulfill this requirement.

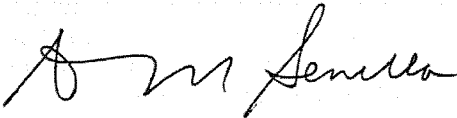
At its July, 2011 meeting, the CAADPE Board of Directors held an extensive discussion on the Governor's proposal. The Board reviewed recent events at the federal and state level and how clients seeking Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment services would best be served, and what kind of delivery system would allow the easiest access and remove administrative and systems barriers. CAADPE also considered a system that would be flexible enough to adapt to the changing needs of the clients and yet adaptive to new evidence based treatments now and in the future. The Board concluded that federal efforts and state initiatives have created opportunities that have not historically existed for the SUD field. It further determined that now is the time to participate as a full partner in the state's health care delivery system and to provide expertise that can help inform the governance decisions about SUD treatment in California.

CAADPE believes the Department of Health Care Services is an appropriate placement for SUD programs as untreated SUD is a major driver of health care costs in California. Since the Department of Health Care Services is the single state agency for health care services, substance use disorder treatment, which is recognized as a specialty care service for an ongoing chronic disease, should now be under its jurisdiction. CAADPE also believes that SUD's presence in the Department of Health Care Services will enhance overall health delivery systems since primary care practitioners are not well versed in SUD specialty care. Knowledgeable and experienced SUD treatment staff can provide the necessary technical assistance to the Department of Health Care Services. Also, as the state implements ACA/healthcare reform, coordination through the health care delivery system will become essential since most people served in treatment programs will be eligible for their health care through medical insurance or the state's Health Benefit Exchange,

As CAADPE believes that SUD treatment will be better served in the Department of Health Care Services in combination with other health care benefits including primary and specialty care, its decision to support the Governor's proposal does not eliminate many of CAADPE's ongoing concerns for the SUD field. These concerns include SUD's visibility and voice, specialty nature, barriers and access to care, and its impact on the broader healthcare systems.

The Association looks forward to working with you and the Legislature in a three part partnership to create a governance structure that will work in the best interest of SUD clients.

Respectfully,



Albert M. Senella  
President

Cc: Nancy McFadden, Executive Secretary for Legislation, Appointments, and Policy, Office of Governor  
Jerry Brown  
**Toby Douglas, Director, Department of Health Care Services**  
**Michael Cunningham, Interim Director, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs**  
Michael Wilkering, Undersecretary of Program and Fiscal Affairs, Health and Human Services Agency  
Wayne Sauseda, Deputy Secretary, Health and Human Services Agency  
Ana Matosantos, Director, Department of Finance  
Teresa Calvert, Department of Finance  
Marvin Deon, Department of Finance